

Achille Rondot, had to establish his claim to the goods as against the execution of *The Monetary Times*, and all costs were reserved for the trial judge. The issue was accordingly tried in December before Mr. Justice Ferguson and a jury—the latter being demanded by the claimant. The jury found in favor of *The Monetary Times*, and the judge, when the verdict was rendered, told the jury—something which, he said, he very seldom did—that he fully concurred in it. Judgment was then given in defendants' favor against the claimant with full costs of all the proceedings from the outset, including all moneys paid to the sheriff, and in the event of the claimant failing to pay within a certain time, the sheriff was directed to levy for all these moneys on the goods in his possession. The claimant was also ordered to pay all the sheriff's costs. He paid nothing.

CONCLUSION NEXT WEEK.

WESTERN BANK OF CANADA.

The Western Bank of Canada has passed its eighteenth year, and by steady growth has reached respectable dimensions. Its transactions for the twelve months ended with February last show a satisfactory rate of earning, something over ten per cent. on the capital. After putting \$16,000 to past due bills and paying the usual dividend, there is \$10,000 added to Rest, and a small sum carried forward. There has been a marked increase in deposits with the bank during the year, and also an increase of circulation, which betokens an active condition of business in the prosperous district in which the bank is situated.

IN THE DRY GOODS STORE.

In goods for mens' wear demand is active for serges, fancy worsteds and vicunas.

Nottingham manufacturers of fancy millinery lace are doing an extensive business for the home trade and for shipment.

Buyers of dress goods are giving a good deal of attention to pebble cheviots for fall wear, especially in medium and high class fabrics.

Shippers at Huddersfield for Canada and the Continent are busy, and a fair demand for both worsteds and woollens for the United States.

We shall look, at the Horse Show next week, for symptoms of the "sporting shirt," among lady riders or visitors, that is a shirt for ladies made soft all through, without any stiffening in collars and cuffs.

The mills of Dewsbury, Batley, and that district of England, generally keep fully employed, and mostly on khaki serge and cloth, ordinary serges in brown, blues etc., Scotch and other tweeds, medium and low presidents and vicunas.

The production of Lyonese fabrics during 1899 was of the value of 451,000,000 francs, as compared with 415,000,000 in 1898. But the increase in the value of tissues, owing to the high price of raw materials, should be considered. The principal items in the list are pure silks, tissues plain, more than a fourth of the whole, and mixed tissues with other plain materials, value 117,000,000 francs. Foulards, crepes and mousselines, about 112,000,000 francs; tulles and laces, 22,000,000 francs; passementeries, 16,000,000 francs.

Many in the trade—manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers—burnt their fingers a few years ago over the rage for grass lawns, which ended so suddenly, says an English writer. "I have been amused this week to hear of a maker-up who has been enabled to work off a lot of this cloth, which he had had in stock over four years, because the ground was of one of the dozen of shades which are labelled khaki. It is true that the stuff had been marked down at successive stocktakings to about a third of its cost, but even at that figure its possessor has been delighted to get rid of it."

Something new in textile manufacture is reported from New Bedford, Mass. A young man there named, John M. Hathaway, has discovered, it appears, a way of taking flax straw as it is left in the fields by the Western farmers, and making from it a very satisfactory fabric of linen. What he produces from waste holds a fair comparison with the various grades of crash sold over the counters of the dry goods dealers for towelling, stiffening, shirt

material, etc., and it can be produced for a mere fraction of the cost of the linen heretofore offered for sale. It is stated that the company at the back of Mr. Hathaway, the National Flax Fibre Company, with a capital of \$5,000,000, will take possession of the town of Slatersville, R.I., which it has recently purchased, and then the enterprise will be developed on a large scale. At the present time the company controls all the products of flax straw in thirty-two States.

In mentioning the other day the fur sales of March in London we told of the great price, £580, paid by a Paris furrier for a silver fox skin. Another feature of the sales was the price obtained for marten. Mr. Stamp is said to have gone back almost half a century in his records to find anything like the price realized. Some of the finer lots were secured by American buyers, says *The Draper's Record*, but members of our own market operated freely. A sea otter, in the hands of Messrs. Goad, Rigg & Co., realized £280, which is also a very high figure.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

Dressed hogs sold in Toronto yesterday morning at \$7.25 to \$7.75, a rise of 50 cents.

Pacific Coast apricots will be very early this year, and it is possible that shipments of the cured fruit may begin in June.

According to some reports the crop of lima and small white beans in Southern California promises to be light on account of the dry weather.

Meats are generally higher here and West, with a better demand, especially from Pennsylvania, says the N.Y. Bulletin of 18th April. Western meats nearly all quoted up again.

A Bordeaux correspondent asks the Imperial Institute (Mr. H. Watson), to be placed in communication with Canadian producers of dried apples, etc., who wish to appoint a representative.

A London firm, having a house in Cape Town, wish to communicate with Canadian packers of canned fish, fruits and other food products suitable for the South African market. Apply to the Canadian High Commissioner, London.

A letter of April 2nd from Patras to a New York firm reports a very firm market for currants, and adds: "France and Germany are buying steadily, so we shall have no decline. We do not think 15,000 tons remain in the country for shipment."

A London cable says that the cane sugar market is firm at quotations, which were 12s. 10½d. for Java, and 11s. 9d. for fair refining. Beet was firm but quiet, with May at 10s. 7½d. The stock in United Kingdom was 56,000 tons, against 50,000 tons last year.

In New York on Wednesday, according to the Journal of Commerce, there continued a firm market for coffee, and prices were again higher, the advices being most pronounced for actual supplies. Foreign advices were stronger. Havre market advanced 1 franc, and Hamburg market was ¾ to 1 pfennig higher.

Chicago advices to Westfall Bros. & Co. from their house there state that the citrus fruit shipments from California to April 13 aggregated 11,092 car-loads, against 7,719 cars for the same period last year, and 9,014 cars in 1898. The advices continue: "Shipments have fallen off during the past week. Fully three-quarters of the crop has been marketed."

CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures of Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, April 19th, 1900, compared with those of the previous week:

CLEARINGS.	April 19, 1900.	April 12, 1900.
Montreal.....	\$12,343,246	\$12,862,060
Toronto.....	7,856,944	10,354,148
Winnipeg.....	1,543,406	1,834,836
Halifax.....	1,148,804	1,503,617
Hamilton.....	640,639	808,060
St. John.....	600,124
Vancouver.....	744,773	916,830
Victoria.....	617,031

Aggregate balances, this week, \$.....; last week, \$29,496,706
Aggregate balances, this week, \$.....; last week, \$4,216,004